

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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DRAFTED BY EUR/P:WJGEHRON/VRM

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S/PRS-MR. WAGENSEIL

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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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PLEASE PASS TO WELLS STABLER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH AID CUTOFF: NOON PRESS BRIEFING OF
DECEMBER 10

FOLLOWING ARE PERTINENT Q'S AND A'S NOON PRESS BRIEFING
DECEMBER 10, 1974, CONCERNING THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION
AND ITS DECEMBER 10 CUTOFF DATE OF MILITARY AID TO TURKEY:

QUOTE: Q: CAN YOU TELL US WHAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS
DOING TO IMPLEMENT THE DECEMBER 10 CUTOFF ON MILITARY AID
TO TURKEY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE?

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A: WE DISCUSSED THAT BRIEFLY YESTERDAY, AND I WOULD ADD

THE FOLLOWING COMMENT: THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION PROHIBITS THE OBLIGATION OR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE, SALES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT OR SUPPLIES, OR FOR TRANSPORTATION OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT OR SUPPLIES TO TURKEY AFTER DECEMBER 10TH. IT (THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION) WILL BE CARRIED OUT FULLY AND COMPLETELY.

Q: DOES THAT MEAN THAT EQUIPMENT THAT'S ON THE DOCKS WAITING TO GO ABOARDSHIP AND EQUIPMENT ON SHIPS ENROUTE TO TURKEY WILL NEITHER BE LOADED NOR DELIVERED TO TURKEY?

A: LET ME GO ON BACKGROUND TO DISCUSS THE PIPELINE ASPECT. WHAT I'VE JUST SAID IS THAT SHIPMENTS OF MILITARY EQUIP-

MENT AND SUPPLIES WILL BE DISCONTINUED AFTER TODAY, DECEMBER 10TH, AND MATERIEL ENROUTE, WILL BE RETAINED UNDER U.S. CONTROL PENDING OTHER DISPOSITION.

Q: YOU WORD WAS "RETAINED"?

A: YES.

Q: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN, IN PLAIN ENGLISH?

A: IT MEANS THAT MILITARY MATERIEL THAT IS OUTSIDE OF THE COUNTRY, ENROUTE, WILL BE KEPT UNDER U.S. CONTROL.

Q: WHEN IT HAS ARRIVED IN A TURKISH PORT -- WHAT HAPPENS THEN?

A: I REALLY DON'T HAVE THE SPECIFICS IN THAT REGARD, BUT I THINK IT MIGHT BE SUFFICIENT JUST TO SAY THAT IT WILL BE KEPT UNDER U.S. CONTROL.

Q: UNLOADED?

Q: IMPOUNDED?

A: I JUST DON'T HAVE THOSE SPECIFICS, I'M SORRY.
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Q: HAVE YOU ANY ESTIMATE OF HOW MUCH THAT EQUIPMENT WOULD AMOUNT TO IN DOLLARS NOW?

A: NO, I REALLY DON'T HAVE THAT ESTIMATE.

Q: IS THE UNITED STATES CONSIDERING OTHER DESTINATIONS, AND REROUTING SHIPS THAT ARE NOW CARRYING --

A: I JUST CAN'T CARRY IT ANY FURTHER, WITH RESPECT TO SPECIFICS AT THIS TIME.

Q: THE BAR TO TRANSPORTATION OF SUPPLIES TO TURKEY WOULD ONLY APPLY TO AMERICAN SHIPS, WOULD IT NOT? THERE IS NOTHING TO STOP THE TURKS FROM COMING HERE AND PICKING UP GOODS THAT HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY PURCHASED?

A: I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION.

Q: WE TURNED AN LST OVER TO THE TURKS IN SEATTLE, I THINK IN SEPTEMBER, WHERE A TURKISH CREW CAME AND PICKED IT UP. NOW THAT SORT OF THING WILL NOT BE RESTRICTED BY THIS EMBARGO.

A: I DON'T HAVE THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION.

Q: IS THE SECRETARY STILL SCHEDULED TO SEE THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF TURKEY? AND IF SO, WHEN? AND IF SO, WHAT IMPACT WILL THIS HAVE ON HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER?

A: WELL, AS BOB ANDERSON SAID YESTERDAY, THE SECRETARY DOES HAVE APPOINTMENTS TO SEE BOTH THE GREEK AND THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTERS IN BRUSSELS TOMORROW. AND THAT IS STILL ON.

Q: DO YOU HAVE A READING ON WHAT THE IMPACT OF YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY WILL HAVE ON THOSE DISCUSSIONS?

A: WELL, NO, I DON'T HAVE THAT SORT OF AN IMMEDIATE REACTION. I THINK IN TERMS OF OUR GENERAL VIEW ABOUT THIS MATTER, IT WAS PRETTY FIRMLY EXPRESSED BY THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SECRETARY ON SATURDAY.

Q: WAS IT THE HOPE OF THE MAJOR, FIRM STATEMENT ON SATURDAY THAT THE HOUSE WILL ACT BEFORE TODAY, BEFORE THE DEADLINE?

A: I DON'T KNOW IF WE WERE REALLY READING THE TIMETABLE OF THE HOUSE THAT QUICKLY. OF COURSE, WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE HOUSE WOULD PROMPTLY ACT IN A SIMILAR FASHION TO THE SENATE VOTE.

Q: EVEN THOUGH EQUIPMENT IS RETAINED UNDER U.S. CONTROL, WOULD THIS PERMIT TURKISH USE IN ANY WAY?

A: WELL, I WOULD SUGGEST TO YOU ON BACKGROUND THE

QUESTION OF MATERIEL THAT WAS ENROUTE -- AND I SAID THAT THAT MATERIEL WOULD BE RETAINED UNDER U.S. CONTROL. I THINK THAT IS AS CLEAR AS I CAN MAKE IT.

Q: WHEN DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT UNDERSTAND THAT THE HOUSE WOULD TAKE UP THE TURKISH MATTER FOR VOTE? IT'S PART OF AN AMENDMENT, PRESUMABLY THAT WOULD COME FIRST. DO YOU KNOW WHEN?

A: I WOULD PREFER NOT TO ADDRESS MYSELF AS TO WHEN THE HOUSE MIGHT ACT ON IT. OBVIOUSLY IT'S WITHIN THEIR OWN PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES, AND I WOULDN'T WANT TO TRY AND SECOND GUESS ON THAT. INGERSOLL

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